

MOTUEKA 50 plus WALKING GROUP

AGM Minutes

10.00am, 18 April 2024

RSA, High Street, Motueka

1. WELCOME

Anita

Before we start, **Annie** said a few words about a proposal for a club she would like to start. A possible name could be 'Unmet Friends'. Janine from the library suggested holding a meeting there and a proposed time could be 10.30 on a Friday. Annie will be away for a while but if you are interested, she will be back soon with more information.

Welcome everyone to the AGM for 2024

New members or visitors present?

2. APOLOGIES

Anita

Apologies received from: Phil Ferris, Serene Tan, Graeme Nicholas, Moppie Sharples, Ann Giggs, Judy Fisher, Trevor and Carol Mitchell, Lesley Gunn, Ron Maylor, Vicky Stocker, John McArthur, Wayne Chisnell, Muriel Moran, Sharon Allen, Neville and Helen Bibby, Ann Stubbing, Patricia and Tom McCartney, Barbara Loveridge, Daphne Hamilton, Brian and Cathy Chandler.

Any further apologies?

Only 29 members able to be here today. A lot of Grandparenting seems to be happening during school holidays.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM 30 March 2023

Anita

* to note that, the Minutes of the March 30th 2023 AGM have been emailed to you all, posted on the website and there is a copy on this table

* to propose that, the Minutes be taken as read. To be accepted as a true and correct record.

Seconded: Vivienne Pearson

- to sign the Minutes.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Anita

- Are there any matters arising from the 2023 AGM Minutes?

A detailed explanation of the group is still to be added to the website. Tony Pearson to action.

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Anita

- to give her 2023/24 report

Motueka 50+ Walking Group

President's Report 2024

18.04.24

This is a first for me so I had to Google how to write this report. So here goes: there are four sections.

Highlight Accomplishments for 2023 – 24:

The best news is we did NOT have to call the Westpac Helicopter, though we did make the usual \$500 donation.

Four intrepid members summited Mt Arthur on Feb 1st.

We had a very successful First Aid Course for 32 members, with Danny our paramedic telling us some very funny true stories. Kudos to the member who got up at 6am to do fresh baking for morning tea! Thankyou.

Our annual Xmas party was very enjoyable for the disappointingly low number of 22 members who attended, with fine warm weather encouraging some for a swim.

Topics from our quarterly meetings ranged from the 2023 underwater volcanic eruption off Tonga, to our local little blue penguins and how to protect them.

Over the past 12 months we have recce'd and enjoyed 10 new walks, from the Baton Valley to Waititi River Ramble and Canaan Gold Creek.

We also had 8 extra walks due to our quarterly meeting schedule.

Recognise member's contributions:

I'd like to acknowledge the following members and apologise in advance to anyone who I've forgotten to mention.

Our members who have given their time, vehicles, and enthusiasm to recce our new walks:

Ross, Bob, Karen, Mark, Sarah, Norah, Tony and Vivienne.

Ross McDonald for his time and expertise to create maps, compose text for maps and proofread our programmes.

Kevin Piper who wanted to 'step back,' then emailed 'I'm still here!' For his sage advice, support, experience, map, and text creation, and for updating our existing maps. And for attending nearly all our meetings, though lately he told us 'I've just come to watch!'

Jim Smith, for the very interesting historical compositions he has researched before the relevant walks. Karen Gregory, who has been our secretary for the past 3 years and who takes minutes, types minutes, updates our membership database, makes numerous phone calls, and looks after any potential new members. She has also been 'holding the fort' while Bill and I have been on holiday.

Tony Pearson, who is our Walks Chairman, for his constant support, knowledge, research, experience, and good humour.

To all 31 members who volunteered their time, enthusiasm and expertise on our committee, a personal thank-you from me.

Issues not yet resolved:

I prefer to call these challenges!

ATNP boat trips:

Despite Tony's great negotiation skills, the cheapest fare he could achieve was \$80 each. This includes an \$11 Environmental Access fee, which helps to fund DoC, Project Janzoon and Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust activities, making our own NP the special place that it is. We needed a minimum of 20 members for this rate, but we only 13 members booked. Unfortunately, this increased cost meant there was insufficient numbers to make this trip viable.

Bus trips:

As most of you are aware our past contact with ‘On the Bus’ is no longer an option, as Mike has retired and sold most of his buses. Tony did a lot of research to find an alternative transport company, at a reasonable cost. He found a new contact with two new, air-conditioned mini-vans but we needed four volunteer drivers, one for each leg. Eventually these drivers were arm twisted! The next challenge was the minimum number of passengers, to make this Golden Bay trip viable. Again, this trip was cancelled due to a lack of interest, despite the very reasonable and club subsidised cost of \$20 each. I guess we have had a rude awakening to the ‘real cost of living’ after such great deals for so long.

Membership numbers:

In the past 12 months, four members have passed away: Ron Sharp, Bernie Crutchley, Alan Vincent and Lesley Cranefield.

During this past year, we gained 12 new members, so therefore we are up by 8 members.

Our honorary membership (over 80-year-olds) has increased to 57 members. This is the only group showing growth!

So, a full third of our 167 members are Honorary, leaving only 110 financial members to fund our ongoing activities.

We had a good display at the Motueka Active Aging Expo on Oct 1st. Unfortunately, this resulted in only one new member!

We have also published several articles in the Tasman Guardian, resulting in a few more enquiries. There will be another advertorial soon about our recent Baton Valley walks.

I believe we need to start a recruitment drive, to safeguard the future viability of our Club.

Watch this space.

A lack of volunteers:

This is our biggest challenge! There is a growing trend in our Group for a small team of willing volunteers to continue doing more and more. This includes our past president, Tony and myself, now having turns as Walk’s Organisers, due to a lack of new members in this position.

These ‘willing horses’ are now understandably wanting to ‘step back,’ as some are nearly 80 years old and about to become Honorary members.

A lot of institutional knowledge is about to be lost from our committee, so I ask you to think about ‘stepping up’ to help share the load.

This does not mean you ALL have to be a committee member, but think seriously about ‘How can I help out?’ This may be volunteering as a TEC, doing some baking for our trading table or a sick member, or simply showing your support by attending our meetings.

This does NOT mean just turning up on Thursday mornings and expecting everyone else to have organised a walk, a specific map, permission if on private property, assess the weather over days prior, ensure road access, carpooling and health and safety.

Going forward:

The following changes have been discussed by our Executive and agreed by our committee:

- There will be a \$100 honorarium attached to the secretary position, to cover costs incurred such as printing, paper, cartridges, power, phone calls.

- From 1st Dec to 29th Feb, Walk 1 will leave the Rec Centre at 0800, to avoid the worst heat of the day while walking.

- There will be some changes to membership fees effective 1 April 2024:
These are due to the increased cost of new radios, regular maintenance of radios and PLBs and Website maintenance.

Existing membership will increase to \$20 (a \$5 increase)

Any members who have already paid, will not be affected.

New membership will decrease to \$25 (a \$15 decrease, as we have decided to separate the cost of the club logo, rather than mandating its purchase.)

The club logo remains unchanged at \$20 each. These can be purchased from our secretary.

All members who turn 80 or 90 years old, will receive a birthday card but unfortunately no more gift vouchers, for the funding reasons already mentioned earlier.

The committee recently voted to return to monthly meetings. These will start in June, followed by our mid-winter lunch or a short local walk.

Be aware that I voted against this decision as numbers attending meetings, whether monthly or quarterly, have been very disappointing, despite our best efforts. One of the major objectives of increasing attendance by providing training information and interesting guest speakers, has NOT been fulfilled. I have noticed that there is a definite groundswell of opinion amongst a significant proportion of our membership that enjoy the social aspects of the monthly meetings.

Every meeting takes considerable time to organise and needs to be more than another social gathering, despite the poor attendance at our three annual social events.

Given that effort, I propose that should **average numbers attending monthly meetings, over 5 months from June 2024, fall below 40 members, then we revert to quarterly meetings.** If the wider membership feels so strongly about returning to monthly meetings, then I would expect to see significantly improved attendance.

Walk reports will be re-introduced at these meetings. Again, this is up to a participating member to volunteer to write a short report and present it at the next meeting.

On a personal note, you will not see me for the next couple of months as I head overseas this Sunday. I have asked Tony to 'hold the fort' while I'm away.

And that, ladies and gentlemen, is probably enough from me!

I look forward to another year of enjoyable walks.

Thankyou.

Anita Lasenby

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Bill

- to give his annual financial report, 2023/24 which has been audited and signed off by Tom McCartney
- to propose the adoption of the report:
Seconded: Gwen Brookes.

Anita

Is everyone in agreement to adopt this Treasurer's report?

(Passed)

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Anita

Any correspondence pertinent to the AGM?

Nil

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS and ROLE HOLDERS

To save time, Officers, Committee members and all members fulfilling a specific role have been polled as to whether they would be willing to continue serving the group for the 2024-25 year.

Anita “vacates the chair” and Hands over to Tony Pearson, past President

Tony proposes to the meeting that Anita be approved to serve a 2nd year as President
Seconder: Petreah Carrol

All in favour?.....yes.....Any against?.....no.....

Anita “resumes the chair” and continues with:

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Vice President:

Vacant but happy to chat to anyone who wants to volunteer!

Treasurer:

Bill Heritage is willing to continue.

Secretary:

Karen Gregory is handing over to **John McArthur**, when he has recovered from his accident.

Nominated by: Tony Pearson

Almoner:

Norah Morris is willing to continue.

Walks Organisers

Neville Bibby, Dean and Petreah Carrol, Fizz and Geoff McBride, Phil Ferris and Serene Tan, Fran Forsey are willing to continue

Ross McDonald, together with **Kevin Piper**, have been producing maps for the walks and are willing to continue.

Four Year Walks planning & Quarterly Schedule

Ross McDonald and **Tony Pearson** are willing to be responsible for the 4-year walk plan and provision of the Quarterly Schedule for consideration by the Walks Committee;

Esturians Lead

Jane Cumming is willing to continue.

Walks Committee Secretary

Mary Devine is willing to continue

Website Support

Yvonne Hope is willing to continue, however we are looking for a young IT literate person, who has a background in developing and maintaining websites. This may be a member's partner or son or son-in-law or daughter or daughter-in-law. Pls email Tony.

Group Photographer

Petreah Carroll is willing to continue

Landowner Contact

Bob White is willing to continue

Walks database, Walks Gradings and Programme Proofreader

Ross McDonald

Radios and Beacons

Mark Falloon is willing to continue

IT SUPPORT

Graham Ingram-Monk has given much valuable support to the group this year past and is willing to continue in this role.

MORNING TEA ORGANISERS

Trish Ellis and Peter Beaumont are willing to continue.

HOUSE ORGANISATION

Bevan Cook is willing to continue.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Elaine Taggart is willing to continue as Social Committee convener. Her committee is Frances Harris, Gary Brown and Faye Green who are all willing to continue.

SALES TABLE

Vivienne Pearson and Lee Manning are willing to continue.

NAME BADGES PRODUCTION

Meeting Name Badges

Maureen Harris is willing to continue making up name badges and setting them out for meetings.

Backpack Name Badges

Clive Dyson is willing to continue.

HONORARY AUDITOR

Tom Macartney is willing to continue

Anita: to propose that all the above-mentioned members receive the approval of the meeting to continue in the positions they have volunteered for and to approve the election of John McArthur, as Secretary.

Seconder: Fran Forsey

All in Favour? yes

Any Against? no

9. THANKS

Anita to thank all members who have carried out their roles in the past year and continue to be willing to carry on with these responsibilities. The Club could not operate without you. And welcome to John as our new Secretary.

Thanks to Karen for doing a great job for 3 plus years. Present a practical gift of Dolomite!

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

Walks Committee Meetings

Anita: We have a quarterly Walks Committee Meeting to finalise the next programme and discuss issues and any ideas. This meeting is open to any member. I would like to acknowledge and thank those who have attended regularly and trust they will continue to support the Group. For those who wish to join a meeting of the Walks Committee, this is normally held on a **Monday, 0930am (here) at the RSA for each quarter.** All constructive ideas and comments welcome!

The next usual meeting will be on **Thurs 27 June**, followed by our mid-winter lunch. After that we will go back to monthly meetings from June to October 2024, with short walk reports and after meeting walks. Be aware that the proviso I mentioned in my President's report will be in place from June to Oct. and Vivienne will be counting!

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS?

Nil

12. MEETING CLOSED

Anita to declare the meeting closed at 10.45 am.